

of the Declaration of Rights shall cease at half-past five o'clock on Thursday next," &c.; and the amendment was adopted, upon a division—ayes 39, noes 38.

Mr. DANIEL moved to further amend the order by striking out "half-past five," and inserting the word "one," so that it will read, "at one o'clock next Thursday afternoon," &c.

The question was then taken, and the amendment was adopted, upon a division—ayes 46, noes not counted.

The question was upon the order as amended.

Mr. THRUSTON. Would it be in order to move to amend by striking out the word "Thursday," and inserting "Wednesday?"

The PRESIDENT. It is not in order to move to strike out what the Convention has put in. It can only be reached by a motion to reconsider.

Mr. BAKER moved to reconsider the vote upon the motion to strike out the word "to-day," and insert the words "on Thursday next."

The question was taken upon the motion to reconsider, and it was not agreed to.

The question recurred upon adopting the order as amended—as follows:

"Ordered, That general debate on the 4th article of the Declaration of Rights shall cease at one o'clock on Thursday next; that the chairman of the committee that reported the same shall then be allowed, for closing the discussion, such time as he may desire, not exceeding one hour and a quarter, immediately after which the vote shall be taken upon the pending amendment. Should any other amendments be offered, the person offering the same shall be allowed five minutes to explain the purpose and effect of his proposed amendment, and the vote shall then be taken thereon without further debate."

The question was taken, and the order as amended adopted.

On motion of Mr. SMITH, of Dorchester, it was—

Ordered, That it be entered on the Journal, that Alward Johnson, Esq., a member of this Convention, is absent from his seat in consequence of sickness in his family.

DECLARATION OF RIGHTS—ALLEGIANCE.

The convention then resumed the consideration of the order of the day, being the report of the Committee on the Declaration of Rights, which was on its second reading.

The fourth article was under consideration, which was as follows:

"Article 4. The Constitution of the United States and the laws made in pursuance thereof, being the supreme law of the land, every citizen of this State owes paramount allegiance to the Constitution and Government of the United States, and is not bound

by any law or ordinance of this State in contravention or subversion thereof."

The pending question was upon the motion of Mr. Biscoe to strike out the word "paramount."

Mr. DENNIS. Mr. President, the gentleman from Baltimore city, (Mr. Daniel,) who addressed the Convention yesterday, said that "the majority of this House have seen fit to allow gentlemen here to ventilate their opinions." It seems to me that that is extraordinary language, more particularly coming from one of the majority to the minority. I for one do not stand here to speak what I have to say as a matter of courtesy or favor. I do not stand here dependent upon the will of the majority of this House, to speak the sentiments I may entertain. When it comes to that, when the minority can speak in this hall by suffrage and courtesy only, it will indeed be time for the minority to leave their seats here, and let the majority do their will. I am here as one of the representatives of my county, to speak for my constituents what I believe to be the sentiments they entertain upon the proposition now pending. And I would not say one word here now, but for the fact that in the vote I shall give, and in the views I shall express to-day, I shall express opinions and views different from those I have heretofore entertained and expressed. I make this statement at the outset, because I have none of that pride of consistency, upon which some gentlemen so plume themselves, which would lead me to maintain a doctrine simply because I once maintained it, and to continue to hold opinions simply because I once held those opinions. And I would commend to those gentlemen who may think they have found a weak point in what the member from Somerset may say to-day, so far as regards his consistency, to consider whether or not some of them a few years ago would not have hesitated to vote for the candidates for President and Vice President who are now presented to the people of the United States for their consideration and adoption.

Mr. President: We are now called upon to vote upon the 4th article of this Declaration of Rights, which reads as follows:

"The Constitution of the United States and the laws made in pursuance thereof, being the supreme law of the land, every citizen of this State owes paramount allegiance to the Constitution and Government of the United States, and is not bound by any law or ordinance of this State in contravention or subversion thereof."

Now, sir, in other days, in the peaceful times of the past, when the ship of State glided calmly over the still waters, freighted with her inestimable cargo, when winds were low and seas were calm, and when the man of Massachusetts could clasp the hand of the man of Georgia, and hail him "brother," I